

APPENDIX C-2

Summary Report #2: Summary of Open-Ended Responses to the NH Outdoors Recreation Survey

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Survey participants were asked to identify actions and barriers relating to four topic areas: (1) Recreation Opportunities for All; (2) Public Use and Resource Conservation; (3) Community Recreation, Health and Well-Being; and (4) Recreation Corridors and Linkages. Within the “actions” part of each topic area, eleven broad categories or themes emerged. These are: access; agencies; collaboration; education; enforcement; funding; land/water acquisition; legislation; participation; planning; and research.

There are nine tables presented in this report. Tables 1 through 4 summarize *organizational* responses about possible actions for each of the four topic areas. Tables 5 through 8 summarize *public* responses and opinions about action steps related to these same topic areas. Table 9 summarizes common perceptions about barriers related to these topic areas.

Explanations of Categories Used:

Each category was derived from an initial review of the responses in an effort to identify common themes that would aid in the categorization and interpretation process. However, given that these broad categories were designed to capture a wide range of responses for both “actions” and “barriers” across four separate questions, the category placement may vary somewhat by the reviewer’s interpretation of the response. We interpreted the categories and responses as follows:

Education included both formal and informal educational activities regardless of the method of delivery.

- Formal briefings and educational curriculum for State and local representatives and agents.
- Educational materials designed for public consumption
- TV, radio and print coverage of recreational opportunities, events and issues
- Public relations and marketing of New Hampshire recreational and tourism activities to in-state and out-of-state populations

- Public meetings designed to educate and inform the public of recreational opportunities, issues and processes

Agencies included Federal, State and Local bodies

- Different legislative hierarchies influence agency activities at all levels
- Responses made generic references to governmental agencies

Collaboration was interpreted as

- Cooperation
- Disagreements
- Specific partnership efforts

Note: This category somewhat overlaps with participation depending on context

Participation includes:

- Efforts by the public to influence or get involved with governmental and non-governmental sponsored recreational activities
- Volunteerism
- Involvement in discourse and planning
- User group memberships and participation
- Increase in the numbers of people pursuing outdoor activities

Finally, ‘access’ includes both positive and negative statements about:

- Public access to recreational sites
- New access opportunities
- Improvements to existing sites.

Many of the individual responses touched on more than one category and are reflected accordingly in the response counts per category.

Responses in the “barriers” section of the survey did not clearly fall into the above-mentioned categories, but several themes were present, both in the organization and public responses.

There was no significant difference in responses between the general Public and Organizations perceptions on specific actions or barriers

Actions

Education, access and funding were common categories that were identified as important actions for all four topic areas. Responses were mainly in support of increased education for the general public, environmentalists, planners, and lawmakers. Participants indicated that workshops and informational sessions were needed regarding a variety of subjects, like user etiquette, ecological awareness, and the benefits of preservation (both land and water). Issues relating to access ranged from increased/improved access to decreased access for specific recreation activities. There were also comments relating to the need for disabled access, and recognition of multi-purpose recreational sites. Funding was another popular category amongst public survey respondents, and had specific comments relating to grants and the redistribution of funding mechanisms within New Hampshire.

Barriers

Common themes amongst public respondents relating to barriers in each of the four topic areas included limited funding, lack of information/knowledge, lack of planning/management, and the need for a balance to be found between uses/interests (Table 9). Some comments include: “helping folks understand the \$ and sense of open space and the need to NOW set land aside before the cost becomes prohibitive thereby necessitating huge bond articles in the future to save threatened lands”; “convincing local budget committees and selectmen or city councilors that recreation is a priority”; “lack of local government interest and support of preserving open space for conservation/recreation”; “increased demand due to greater number of users cause deterioration faster than can be repaired”; and “No evidence of a comprehensive plan or ‘vision’ guiding the state’s management of its lands. State Parks and Forests should be managed in a coherent way, to protect what makes them valuable.”

Note: A complete list of responses is available upon request.

Table 1. Organization Action-Based Responses to “Recreation Opportunities for All”

<i>CATEGORY</i>	<i>COMMON THEMES</i>	<i>RANGE OF SAMPLE RESPONSES</i>
Funding	Monetary Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Allocate more of the LWCF funds to local communities, original split was State (25%) Local (75%), now its 40-60” • “Dedicated funding source such as lottery or tolls” • “Fund DRED in a way that does not make them beholden to motorized vehicle interests” • “More equitable tax structure to fund state programs, including parks and recreation”
Access	Restrictions Improvements Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “User groups should not be demonized for participating in their favorite activity. However, they must be educated about the detrimental effects, if any, of their pursuit, so they understand why they may or may not be given access to a given area” • “Make some areas for non-motorized use and others designated for motorized use” • “Removal of obsolete or dangerous dams to open up more rivers for whitewater use”
Education	Outreach/ Awareness Advertising Public Relations Educating Public or Private Agents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Educational programs for public and local officials about the need for land use planning and the importance of recreation” • “Encourage low-impact recreation use” • “Increase education for users on how their activities impact the land” • “One central place for information on recreation such as a website” • “Set up a state resource guide to help local citizens get involved”
Legislation	Policy Changes Legislators Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Change the tax structure to provide more equity in all regions of the state Encourage use of 4-cycle engines which emit less air pollution and create less noise” • “Give the different clubs an incentive for keeping trails and rivers free of damage and litter” • “Remove the liability from landowners that generously open up their lands for public use” • “Tax incentives for land owners who allow their trails to be used” • “New Hampshire must begin to examine its role as a promoter of non-sustainable recreation, to change its culture to protect from the continuing invasion of motorized vehicles on trails, rivers and lakes”
Planning	Planning Growth Management Zoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Cluster development with more open space for recreation” • “Compatible issues should be emphasized and non-compatible issues should be limited or eliminated, especially where opportunities exist for users elsewhere.” • “Improve public transportation systems” • “Smart growth, controlling what happens and where”
Collaboration	Cooperation Conflict Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “A more open forum to let adversaries and interested parties work out their differences” • “More partnering among federal, state and local agencies” • “Government working with private organizations to maximize each ones efforts” • “Get user groups to work with one another through mutual education and dialog”
Enforcement	Civil Environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Fund enforcement of laws to protect landowners and public lands from motorized craft violating property rights” • “Make a website available for all user groups and organizations to report to authorities about specific groups and individuals that break the law” • “Once the rules of use are defined, state enforcement must be put into place”
Agencies	Federal State Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Develop a mission and vision statement for the State’s outdoor recreation department” • “Develop a NH Greenway advisory council” • “State agencies could utilize volunteers the way many nonprofits do to make up for their personnel shortfalls”
Participation	Public More Users Volunteerism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Encourage organization of ATV clubs to ensure that they enforce responsible riding by members” • “Provide more opportunities for public input” • “Encourage a sense of ownership by users of public lands” • “Form a public/private steering committee to deal with these issues”
Land Acquisition	Land Water Conservation Easements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “ATVs must acquire and maintain their own trails as snowmobiles do” • “Continued acquisition of lands for conservation and outdoor recreation by state agencies should be the primary focus of SCORP as it relates to statewide use of LWCF funds. Also, acquisition of easements on private land” • “Make more funds available for public purchase of open lands for future managed preservation/use”
Research	Biological Socioeconomic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Have environmental guidelines in place for planners to consider” • “Look at how land use regulations impact both development and conservation” • “We need to establish carrying capacities of motorized boating on our lakes – they cannot sustain continued increases in boating density”

Table 2. Organization Action-Based Responses to “Public Use and Resource Conservation.”

<i>CATEGORY</i>	<i>COMMON THEMES</i>	<i>RANGE OF SAMPLE RESPONSES</i>
Education	Outreach/ Awareness Advertising Public Relations Educating Public or Private Agents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Educate the citizens about what conservation is and why it is important to manage land for the natural resources” • “Hard call: maybe state offered training of all zoning board members. Conservation training as well.” • “Provide training/education for people to pursue new business opportunities” • “This is a cultural problem within the state and the nation. Getting at this problem would need to take an entire shift in how we Americans view our resources.”
Access	Restrictions Improvements Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Designate areas for certain heavily competing interests like motorized vs. non-motorized. Regulate with permits overused areas requiring reservations” • ”Open up the land for the public use of ATV's” • “While every use has an impact, others have much more serious impacts than others. These instances shouldn't be understated. (e.g. engines which pour gas directly into lakes) Strong action should be taken to prevent or eliminate such uses. • “Each individual could be made to pay a fee for use of whatever recourse that they might like to partake in, be it paddling, or bird watching, the state owns the water and the wildlife and some of the land and its not the people of the state that own th...”
Collaboration	Cooperation Conflict Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Coordinated efforts by those groups concerned with these types of recreation.” • “Find ways SOON for different groups to get together and start talking about shared solutions” • “Form a committee with the sole purpose of helping groups that are working on approved projects are following the guidelines set.” • “Work with local clubs and groups to put maintenance plans in place where mechanized access is allowed.”
Funding	Monetary Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “A surcharge on camping/rec gear like the Pittman fund for firearms to support education and rescue programs” • “Adoption of an adequate and progressive tax basis to fund state and local government functions” • “Decouple Parks Dept program funding from ATV and snowmobile registration funds” • “Higher user fees”
Legislation	Policy Changes Legislators Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Push the new Governor and legislature to support permanent funding for LCHIP” • “Address landowner concerns over liability and public access” • “Offer a statewide tax credit for historical rehabilitation projects” • “State laws to regulate OHRVs”
Planning	Planning Growth Management Zoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Create opportunities for state funded local recreation opportunities such as beaches, trails, etc” • “Don’t try to adhere to multiple uses” • “Need statewide recreation and conservation plan that proposes solutions and funding mechanisms” • “Look for diverse businesses to expand to our area”
Enforcement	Civil Environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Enforcement of water quality laws” • “Create tougher littering laws & follow thru on enforcement” • “Increase the enforcement personal” • “Management; i.e trail crew-litter pickup to law enforcement with real teeth in the program.”
Land Acquisition	Land Water Conservation Easements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Investment in municipal parkland for growing communities” • “Purchase green/open space lands within communities for the specific purpose of recreational activities” • “Investment in a network of ecological reserves” • “Private or state owned agencies could purchase the land and protect it from development or de-forestation.”
Research	Biological Socioeconomic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Actions, yes; solutions, no. Keep talking; keep an open mind/heart; underwrite research; err on the side of conservation.” • “Fund new research on human impacts to natural resources and ways to educate them to reduce impact.” • “Fund studies of population and tourism trends” • “Seek ways to provide water consuming industries with alternatives to drawing water from public streams and lakes”
Agencies	Federal State Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Ask for user fees or volunteer hours so you can provide labor or \$ to help maintain an area for your activity of choice” • “Let reason prevail. Let local officials make decisions about local land use issues.” • “State agencies should perform thorough analyses on the real costs of motorized recreation on the natural resource base of the state, especially on state-owned lands.” • “Those involved in the decision making process must remain strictly objective and seek out true and unbiased information and politics must be removed from the process.”
Participation	Public More Users Volunteerism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Open hearings soliciting opinions from all interested parties.” • “More local input and less political influence”

Table 3. Organization Action-Based Responses to “Community Recreation, Health and Well-Being.”		
CATEGORY	COMMON THEMES	RANGE OF SAMPLE RESPONSES
Funding	Monetary Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Adequate funding of public transit systems” • “Change the percentage of dollars between high impact and low impact forms of recreation” • “Provide more funding to LCHIP and other open space protection programs” • “Stronger taxpayer support for recreation/open space at the local level. We are seeing a trend in this direction, especially in southern NH”
Education	Outreach/ Awareness Advertising Public Relations Educating Public or Private Agents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Advocates engaging the public” • “Community Leaders and Citizens need to be made aware of these issues” • “Difficult but we need to be as effective in marketing the benefits of the outdoors as we are in marketing computers, etc. to our youth.” • “Keep trying to show that we are stewards of the public lands to serve the many customers, including areas such as Flood Control, Environmental Stewardship, Recreation Management, and Wildlife & Natural Resources Management,”
Planning	Planning Growth Management Zoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Better planning: growth/subdivision ordinances that reward more thoughtful development and require that recreation be taken into consideration.” • “Community Master Plans w/ a strong focus on town building & land needs now and in the future” • “Encourage/foster more multi-town and regional development.” • “Planning & zoning regulations that promote "cluster development" and reward the protection of open space”
Legislation	Policy Changes Legislators Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Create an officer for recreational development elected by the people to serve 4 year terms and to answer only to the people” • “Review and streamline regulations so that the environment is adequately protected but within a less burdensome and time-consuming procedure.” • “Legislative action to provide incentives to communities to developed location recreation areas.”
Enforcement	Civil Environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “A fee can be used to police these activities and be put back into the resource” • “DRED, F&G, parks need to police these activities better” • “State should get serious about enforcing habitat protection statutes, zoning violations, milfoil introduction, etc”
Agencies	Federal State Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Grow Smart NH is a good start, haven’t heard much about it recently” • “Make sure D.O.T. uses it's 10% enhancement money for these kinds of projects” • “Maintain r & p departments as a single dept.”
Collaboration	Cooperation Conflict Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Public feedback” • “We need business partners” • “Work of Live Walk communities and others”
Access	Restrictions Improvements Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Take seriously landowner complains about infringement upon private and public lands by motorized forms of recreation” • “Minimize motorized-uses where human-powered uses have historically predominated.”
Land Acquisition	Land Water Conservation Easements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Target more LWCF funds for trailhead, natural corridor, and other open-space protection.” • “Work directly with Farm Bureau and Conservation Districts to reach those with prime properties that would be in the best interest to protect for the future”
Research	Biological Socioeconomic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Communities need to study what other types of outdoor activities the local population enjoy doing”
Participation	Public More Users Volunteerism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Volunteers that get discounts for cleaning trails or being hosts at area attractions” • “Meetings”

Table 4. Organization Action-Based Responses to “Recreation Corridors and Linkages.”

<i>CATEGORY</i>	<i>COMMON THEMES</i>	RANGE OF SAMPLE RESPONSES
Planning	Planning Growth Management Zoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Campaign to make apartment living laudable & affordable; educate town selectmen & planning boards on the advantages of having "downtown" areas for residences as well as services, mercantile, etc.” • “Come up with a specific statewide plan that addresses the user groups, major landowner and future needs.” • “Develop regional trail/greenway plans and have RPC's administer through local advisory committees.” • “The State should work with the public to create a statewide vision for greenways and recreation corridors.”
Funding	Monetary Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “State Government should review additional federal grant funding, including Health and Human Services grants.” • “Provide funding to existing or new state/nonprofits for landowner education and support.” • “Increased public funding. More money for LCHIP and LWCF, both great programs.” • “Dept.of Transportation needs to have more support for bike/pedestrian education, resources”
Education	Outreach/ Awareness Advertising Public Relations Educating Public or Private Agents	<p>“Easier access via an interactive web site that will have the ability of posting and listing on going projects and the roadblocks faced along with the solutions to those road blocks as they are overcome.”</p> <p>“Educating the public, at the state and local level, of the benefits of open space and greenways”</p> <p>“Massive educational program aimed at educating outdoor recreationists about concerns of private landowners.”</p> <p>“Provide developers with guidelines and expectations for trail continuity.”</p>
Legislation	Policy Changes Legislators Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “ATV issue addressed by state leadership” • “Overhaul of NH's archaic tax structure” • “Tax credits for promotion of open space (beyond current use)” • “Incentives for re-use of sites rather than building on new ground”
Access	Restrictions Improvements Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Find better means of transferring control to the public of old rail beds and the like” • “Release this property for recreational use, until such time as the railroad needs it back. Rails and ties will need to be replaced anyway.!!” • “Look into the creation of paved bike trails on some of these corridors so they can have year-around access.”
Collaboration	Cooperation Conflict Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Work with current land owners public & private to establish conservation trusts within these valuable, irreplaceable corridors” • “Work with industry to promote greater understanding of importance of recreational opportunities for employee welfare”
Agencies	Federal State Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “A Centralized Rails to Trails Project office (similar to the Rails to Trails Conservancy) Needs to be Established and aware of the status of all vacated Rail beds in the country and who owns the right of way.” • “Coordinated or specific organization chartered to address recreational corridors and linkages” • “Get the D.O.T. to really support rails to trails.” • “More networking and support from the Bureau of Trails, although I think they do a good job as it is”
Enforcement	Civil Environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Fish & game patrolling area more visible” • “Insure that private property rights can be protected”
Land Acquisition	Land Water Conservation Easements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Increase funding for purchase of access rights for key corridor trails.” • “Work with current land owners public & private to establish conservation trusts within these valuable, irreplaceable corridors” • “Town should purchase trail systems”
Participation	Public More Users Volunteerism	
Research	Biological Socioeconomic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Create volunteer opportunities” • “Apathy. A perpetual problem. People are constantly expressing support for our activities but won't contribute legwork.”

Table 5. Public Action-Based Responses to “Recreation Opportunities for All.”

<i>CATEGORY</i>	<i>COMMON THEMES</i>	<i>RANGE OF SAMPLE RESPONSES</i>
Access	Restrictions Improvements Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Restriction of off-road vehicles to specific areas with stringent controls and monitoring.” • “Add reasonable parking spaces off the road for busy trailheads/recreational areas.” • “Improve disabled access.” • “Open more existing state land for different activities.”
Education	Outreach Advertising Public Relations Awareness Education (public, agencies, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Make information easily available.” • “Recreational safety programs.” • “Don’t advertise so much for tourists!” • “Advertise within the state more.” • “Increase circulation of news from DRED.” • “Help state and local leaders understand that open space is good business!” • “Public awareness of access issues.” • “Educate the public on how to treat trails and land.” • “Educate local government about land protection.”
Funding	Monetary Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Make parks free.” • “Eliminate trailhead parking fees!” • “Restructure/re-fund the state agencies that manage the Parks & Forests so that they are more likely to respond to the real #s of different user-types, not the loudest or best politically connected.”
Legislation	Policy Changes Legislators Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Sensible regulation based on facts, not politics.” • “Use of existing RSAs to force balanced use of trail system.” • “Elect environmentally cautious leaders to protect what we have.” • “Less legislative involvement.”
Collaboration	Cooperation Conflict Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Work with local groups involved in outdoor activities to determine local needs.” • “Clubs need to open up and work with land owners.” • “Increase communication and interagency cooperation.” • “Get every type of group involved in major decisions.” • “Establish strong local liaisons in each community.”
Agencies	Federal State Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “OSP, DRED, F&G and users working together.” • “Have a state recreation board, which has power, and can work with all the different state agencies.” • “The state needs to take leadership in spending its grants, instead of asking volunteer groups to be responsible.”
Enforcement	Civil Law Enforcement Environmental Law Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Add more law enforcement on trails.” • “Enforce DES regulations with STIFF FINES & where applicable imprisonment.”
Planning	Planning Growth Management Zoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Better planning and vision when assessing development projects.” • “Prioritize resource protection and low-impact recreation on state lands.” • “Set aside a portion of new developments for common use and link these spaces together from town to town.”
Land Acquisition	Land Acquisition Water Acquisition Conservation Easements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Facilitate conservation easement.” • “State outdoor recreation grants would help to purchase and maintain outdoor recreation land.” • “Acquire more public land.”
Research	Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Less stringent environmental studies.” • “Study environmental impact.”
Participation	Public Participation More Users Volunteerism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “More political activism by conservation and recreation organizations.” • “Encourage communities to use volunteers to help maintain/improve trails and open spaces.”

Table 6. Public Action-Based Responses to “Public Use and Resource Conservation.”

<i>CATEGORY</i>	<i>COMMON THEMES</i>	<i>RANGE OF SAMPLE RESPONSES</i>
Education	Outreach Advertising Public Relations Awareness Education (public, agencies, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Educate the public about benefits (i.e., land value increase) to such facilities as greenways and trails.” • “Awareness programs.” • “Improved educational resources for all groups to learn how to use the areas properly.” • “Promote public awareness of the fragility of natural resources.” • “Regional workshops on planning.” • “Radio/TV ads promoting state sticker system, trail system, insurance, etc.”
Access	Restrictions Improvements Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Restriction of high impact users to specific areas.” • “State should open more lands for motorized vehicles.”
Planning	Planning Growth Management Zoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Control of development to promote open space and resource conservation.” • “Limit the amount of new homes being built.” • “Loosen the trail development restrictions.” • “Planning and management of multi-use area.” • “Regulation allowing all forms of use on the land areas.”
Agencies	Federal State Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Permit local agencies to adopt local controls.” • “Towns should have the final say about development of private land for public recreation use.”
Collaboration	Cooperation Conflict Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Improve communications between the various special interest groups.” • “Promote conservation and recreation TOGETHER. They can and should support each other.” • “Work with the clubs to help with the issues.”
Enforcement	Civil Law Enforcement Environmental Law Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Enforce use of existing RSAs.” • “Stringent controls and monitoring of high impact use areas.” • “Patrols to ensure mature use of trails & forest.”
Legislation	Policy Changes Legislators Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Regulations based on common sense and provable facts.” • “Review motorized impacts – make the hard decisions required to protect the environment.”
Funding	Monetary Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Bite the bullet and raise taxes to support our environment.” • “Provide more funding for enforcement of regulations.”
Land Acquisition	Land Acquisition Water Acquisition Conservation Easements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Acquire more land for public recreation.” • “Purchase more land and easements for protection.” • “Make preservation and conservation a priority for state government.”
Participation	Public Participation More Users Volunteerism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Utilize public organizations for clean-up efforts.” • “Enlist more volunteers... particularly kids/younger people.” • “All users of a given activity need to be encouraged to belong to a club or organization that supports their activities.”
Research	Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “More impact studies.” • “Provide realistic data to regulators and legislators based on engineering rather than emotion.” • “There needs to be a balance between the use of these lands and scientific based information on the detriments as a result of this usage.”

Table 7. Public Action-Based Responses to “Community Recreation, Health and Well-Being.”		
CATEGORY	COMMON THEMES	RANGE OF SAMPLE RESPONSES
Education	Outreach Advertising Public Relations Awareness Education (public, agencies, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Open forums explaining why things are being looked at.” • “Promote healthy recreation for locals, not just tourists.” • “The community should do more to involve new residents and convince them that they have a vested interest in these projects.” • “The health care professional should inform his/her patients about possible activities to improve their health, going on in the community.”
Access	Restrictions Improvements Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Significantly increase the number of safe, convenient urban trails connecting destinations.” • “Incentives to towns to support the development of recreational lands and protection of watersheds, greenways, etc.” • “Update existing recreational facilities to reflect the needs of the communities.”
Funding	Monetary Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Do not take money from special interest groups that have strings attached.” • “Increase funding sources.” • “Create income tax to fund education and community based recreation.” • “Assistance with obtaining funding for recreational projects.”
Planning	Planning Growth Management Zoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Enact laws and regulations to halt urban sprawl.” • “Mixed uses of urban areas (residential, office, manufacturing, etc.), public transportation that works.” • “Provide more regional planning of recreational facilities.” • “Zoning restrictions.”
Collaboration	Cooperation Conflict Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Encourage and provide incentives for neighboring towns to work together.” • “State-wide leadership in the development of state-wide trail systems.” • “Better communication.”
Participation	Public Participation More Users Volunteerism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Community participation which doesn’t require much money. Examples are trail maintenance by snowmobilers and hikers.” • “More incentives to volunteer.”
Agencies	Federal State Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Get better people in public office.” • “Stop State support for ATVs including no more funding for trails, insurance policy.”
Land Acquisition	Land Acquisition Water Acquisition Conservation Easements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Acquire and protect land.” • “Land trusts to acquire conservation easements allowing public access.” • “Open space protection assistance to local communities.”
Legislation	Policy Changes Legislators Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Clarify RSAs on public lands.” • “Very stringent laws for ATV use.”
Research	Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Studies to show how recreation areas increase the worth of town thus economics.” • “Grants for studies, inventories.”
Enforcement	Civil Law Enforcement Environmental Law Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Greater ranger and state police presence are certainly needed.” • “Increased funding for building and maintaining facilities and for law enforcement.” • “Swift punishment to the individuals.”

Table 8. Public Action-Based Responses to “Recreation Corridors and Linkages.”

<i>CATEGORY</i>	<i>COMMON THEMES</i>	<i>RANGE OF SAMPLE RESPONSES</i>
Education	Outreach Advertising Public Relations Awareness Education (public, agencies, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Better educate the public on the impact all activities have on the given corridors.” • “Educate private landowners.” • “Increase in ecological awareness.” • “Raise public awareness.”
Access	Restrictions Improvements Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Open more land for recreational use.” • “Reduce amount of public trails and strictly enforce violations.” • “Provide areas for each that don’t interfere with each other.” • “Incentives to land owners to open lands.”
Funding	Monetary Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Provide funding to RPCs to do more regional planning for recreation and conservation.” • “Higher registration fees. Much higher.” • “Take some road-building funds and put more of it to trails and recreation facilities.” • “Take the increased revenue and invest it into programs for policing and trail development.”
Collaboration	Cooperation Conflict Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Partner with volunteer organizations.” • “Towns need more coordination and support from state.” • “State departments working together to preserve the environment.”
Planning	Planning Growth Management Zoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Better planning.” • “Encourage towns to plans with subsidies.” • “Master plans that try to bring corridors together.” • “Say NO to cluster housing. Re-think this instead to minimum 10-acre zoning.”
Agencies	Federal State Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “A neutral government that listens only to scientific information and balances that with the use of the land by many for recreation purposes.” • “More & better State political leadership from governor and Council and legislature.” • “State promoting environmental issues and not economic development.”
Land Acquisition	Land Acquisition Water Acquisition Conservation Easements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Buy more land for conservation.” • “Obtaining conservation and use easements from owners unwilling to sell the land.” • “Only purchase land from willing sellers.” • “Routing trails to areas where purchases and easements can be obtained.”
Legislation	Policy Changes Legislators Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Help land owners to manage land for public use.” • “Make allowances for trails and linkages through the planning process. Perhaps more muscle could be put into our RSAs to allow for consideration of trails and linkages.”
Enforcement	Civil Law Enforcement Environmental Law Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Reduce amount of public trails and strictly enforce violations.” • “Working with law enforcement.” • “Stiffer penalties.”
Research	Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Impact studies.” • “Resources need to be specifically identified by study/research.”
Participation	Public Participation More Users Volunteerism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Let locals hold people and groups accountable.”

Table 9. Common Barriers

- “Accommodating the rapid increase in popularity of motorized recreation, both on land and water, will face increasing conflicts with those who favor non-motorized forms of outdoor recreation”
- “As long as communities embrace the high-impact recreational forms to generate dollars for local economies, the quality of life and health in the communities will decline”
- “As population grows, and more people seek outdoor recreation, our public lands are increasingly challenged to provide for these needs. More private landowners are posting in response to people who use their lands with no regard for property rights or c...”
- “City, Town, State, and Federal recreational opportunities are currently treated as separate pieces and not linked together by any common threads it seems.”
- “Conflicts are driven by increasing population, and the increasing mechanization of recreational equipment, and the perceived need to motorize recreation”
- “Development and sprawl are threatening the health of our natural resources and concentrating use on those areas remaining.”
- “Environmentalists/Conservationists and some forms of recreationalists may not have the same priorities”
- “Fear that all these corridors and connections will lead to more regulation of private landowners.”
- “Increased development pressures will result in increased demand for recreation and fewer "places" where outdoor recreation can be developed”
- “Lack of a designated local official who is responsible for this. If this person exists it is not clear who that person is and how to access them. No accountability.”
- “Lack of agreement between Local, State & Federal Officials on what are acceptable uses.”
- “Lack of understanding of the value of natural resources to the quality of our lives, using things all up before their value is recognized”
- “Leadership has no understanding of the concept of finite resources, and/or no political will to say no to big money funding new development that stresses all resources.”
- “Letting the general public know the importance of preserving lands is critical to public support of these programs.”
- “Misinformation about the impact of motorized recreation on the land as well as the economy.”
- “Municipal leaders need to be educated on how to use state and federal block grants to improve their communities. Much of this money is being wasted because ignorant town officials are not applying for the grants or wasting the grants they get.”
- “My guess is that about 90% of NH highways do not have shoulders that bikes can even ride on. Even newly paved roads do not accommodate for bikes. New road standards are not being followed in NH.”
- “Not enough stewardship funding to properly care for parks and recreation areas to manage heavy recreational use.”
- “Some groups are refusing to acknowledge improvements in engine technology are leading to cleaner, quieter vehicles.”
- “Some groups do not want to acknowledge the benefits to timber harvesting, not even select cuts.”
- “Takes too long to get all of the information and pieces together needed to start, Fund, and complete a project to hang onto a committee long enough to complete a project”
- “The environmental movement has gone too far. Jobs and economic prosperity are more important than the mating patterns of obscure wildlife species.”
- “The growing demand for all forms of recreation use results in impacts to natural resources from concentrated usage. This results in a reduction of the quality of all users experience in the outdoors, especially on State-owned lands.”